

U.S. patent application Ser. No. 10/664,366
Response to Office Action dated November 7, 2006
Amendment dated April 8, 2007

REMARKS

Entry of this Amendment and reconsideration of this application as amended are respectfully requested.

Applicant respectfully requests that the Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. 1.116 filed February 5, 2007 not be entered.

Status of Claims

Claims 1-4, 6-14, 16-22 and 34-45 and new claims 46-54 are pending in this application. Claims 23-32 are cancelled. Claims 5, 15 and 33 are withdrawn from consideration in view of the earlier election of species requirement.

Claim Amendments

Claims 1, 2, 4, 6, 9, 12, 13, 15, 17, 33-37, 39-43 and 45 are amended. It is respectfully submitted that the claims as amended are not independent and distinct from the claims previously claimed and examined as a matter of right and therefore, the filing of this amendment with an RCE is proper. Moreover, unless an argument is made below in support of the patentability of each of these claims over the cited prior art, the changes to these claims do not relate to patentability.

New Claims

Claims 46-54 are added. A Form-2038 for payment of the fee of \$225.00 for presentation of these new claims, applicant qualifying for small entity status, is enclosed.

Claims 46-54 are directed to the elected embodiment and supported by the disclosure as originally filed. As such, no new matter is introduced by the presentation of claims 46-54.

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Petition for Extension


Applicant hereby petitions for a two-month extension to extend the time for response to the Office Action dated November 7, 2006 for two months from February 7, 2007 to April 9, 2007. A Form-2038 is enclosed for payment of the petition fee of \$225, applicant qualifying for small entity status.

Interview Request

The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned to discuss this case if the Examiner is of the opinion that it could advance prosecution of this application to issuance.

An early and favorable action on the merits of the invention is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,


Attorney for Applicant
Brian Roffe
Reg. No. 35,336

Brian Roffe
11 Sunrise Plaza, Suite 303
Valley Stream, New York 11580-6111
Tel. No. (516) 256-5636
Fax No. (516) 256-5638